

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



**FISCAL NOTE**

**SB 158 - HB 947**

March 10, 2009

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Requires the Departments of Education (DOE) and Children's Services (DCS), in conjunction with the State Board of Education, to establish a virtual education program for adjudicated delinquents who have been found guilty of rape, aggravated rape, or rape of a child. Requires such youth to participate.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures - \$1,055,200/Recurring  
\$354,700/One-Time**

**Decrease Local Expenditures – Not Significant**

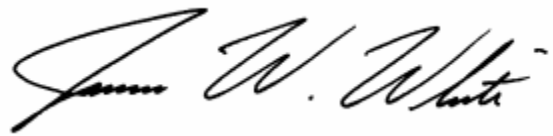
**Assumptions:**

- Approximately 77 children will be required to participate in these programs. Thirteen of these children will be in DCS custody in a youth detention facility (YDC) and 19 will be in a group home setting. The remaining 45 children will be either on probation or in aftercare and may be currently educated in a public school setting.
- If the State Board of Education meets to approve this program, any discussion will take place during the normal course of business, no special meeting will be held.
- Local education agencies currently educating students who will be required to attend virtual education programs will experience a small decrease in expenditures, estimated to be not significant.
- DCS will incur costs of approximately \$19,700 in one-time expenditures to purchase computers. Costs for YDC computers will be \$11,820 (4 facilities x 3 computers x \$985) and costs for group home computers will be \$7,880 (4 facilities x 2 computers x \$985).
- DOE will use the e4TN virtual education system to provide this program to all students (in or out of DCS custody) and will set up online end of course testing and reporting for these students. Currently end of course testing is done by paper tests and reports are scanned by hand.

- Cost per class will be approximately \$600. DOE assumes that at least one additional teacher will be hired with adjunct teachers doing the majority of the oversight. One teacher will cost approximately \$75,000 (\$49,500 salary and \$25,500 benefits). Total class cost for 77 students will be approximately \$352,200 [(77 x \$600 per class x 6 classes) + \$75,000]. It is assumed that adjunct teachers will be utilized at non-DCS and DCS facilities.
- One-time costs will be a total of \$335,000 for online setup and uploads (\$115,000), enrollment setups and uploads (\$125,000), and reporting setups (\$95,000).
- Recurring expenses will be approximately \$703,000 for annual uploads (\$50,000), enrollment annual uploads (\$150,000), report delivery (\$380,000), assessment tests (\$3,000), and secure website hosting with fiber-optic network (\$120,000).
- Total increase in one-time state expenditures will be approximately \$354,700 (\$19,700 DCS + \$335,000).
- Total increase in recurring state expenditures will be approximately \$1,055,200 (\$352,200 classes + \$703,000).

## **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director

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